

Message Text

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ORIGIN OES-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 DLOS-09 L-03
CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PM-05 SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00
INRE-00 SSO-00 /087 R

DRAFTED BY OES/OFA/OCA;MDBUSBY:LS

APPROVED BY OES/OFA/OCA;MDBUSBY

D/LOS:BERLIND

L/OES:HOINKES

ORA/FA:HALLMAN

EA/ANP:HURWITZ

OES:MINK (SUBS)

-----028636 070313Z /20

O 062304Z APR 78

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION GENEVA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY SUVA IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA IMMEDIATE

CINCPAC HONOLULU HAWAII IMMEDIATE 0079

AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY PORT MORESBY IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY SEOUL IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY TOKYO IMMEDIATE

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 089082

GENEVA: ACTION BY OPEN OF BUSINESS 4/7/78

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PLOS, EFIS, FJ, NZ

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SUBJECT: SOUTH PACIFIC REGIONAL FISHERIES AGENCY: FIJIAN
REVERSAL

REF: (A) 1734 WELLINGTON, (B) 503 SUVA, (C) 75501 STATE

1. DEPT VIEWS DEVELOPMENT REPORTED REFTEL (A) WITH CONCERN.
AT INITIAL NEGOTIATING SESSION, FIJI, ALONG WITH AUSTRALIA,

NEW ZEALAND, AND WESTERN SAMOA, WAS ONE OF STRONGEST ADVOCATES FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF SPRFA WHICH INCLUDED U.S. COUPLED WITH HARD-LINE PNG POSITION, A MAJOR REVERSAL ON PART OF FIJI COULD DEAL FATAL BLOW TO EFFORT. REPORTED SHIFT ESPECIALLY SURPRISING IN LIGHT OF REFTEL (B), WHICH CONFIRMED FIJI'S STRONG SUPPORT FOR SPRFA AND U.S. PARTICIPATION.

2. DEPT WOULD LIKE TO FIRST CONFIRM SHIFT IN FIJIAN POSITION, AND SECONDLY TO FORSTALL, IF POSSIBLE, ANY COMMUNICATION OF NEW POSITION TO OTHER GOVERNMENTS (PARTICULARLY PNG) UNTIL U.S. HAS OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS ISSUE WITH APPROPRIATE GOF REPS.

3. ACTION REQUESTED:

A. FOR GENEVA, AMB. CLINGAN. REQUEST APPROACH NANDAN AND/OR MCLAUGHLIN TO VERIFY ACCURACY OF REPORT REFTEL (A). IF REPORT IS CONFIRMED, REQUEST EXPLORE POSSIBILITY OF DELAYING TRANSMISSION OF FIJIAN POSITION TO OTHER GOVTs UNTIL U.S. HAS AN OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS ISSUE WITH GOF. (FYI: WITH SITUATION AS FLUID AS IT APPARENTLY IS, AND BEARING IN MIND CONCERNS EXPRESSED BY SOME EMBASSIES OVER SOME ASPECTS OF STRATEGY OUTLINED REFTEL (C), DEPT IS RETHINKING HOW BEST TO PROCEED. HOWEVER, IT NOW APPEARS EARLY TRIP TO VARIOUS HOST GOVTs IN REGION BY CONFIDENTIAL

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WASHINGTON EXPERTS WILL BE INTEGRAL PART OF ANY NEW PLAN. GROUP WOULD VISIT SUVA AND COULD UNDERTAKE EXTENSIVE CONSULTATIONS WITH GOF).

B. FOR SUVA. UNTIL WE HAVE MORE CONCRETE INFORMATION, WE DO NOT BELIEVE FORMAL APPROACH TO GOF SHOULD BE MADE AT THIS TIME. HOWEVER, IF EMBASSY CAN DEVELOP ADDITIONAL INFORMATION THROUGH NORMAL DIPLOMATIC SOURCES, THIS SHOULD BE COMMUNICATED TO DEPT IMMEDIATELY.

C. FOR ALL POSTS. WOULD APPRECIATE ANY INFORMATION DEVELOPED REGARDING REFTEL (A).

4. AS STATED ABOVE, DEPT CONSIDERING HOW BEST TO MOVE THESE NEGOTIATIONS ALONG. WE ARE NOW CONSIDERING SWING THROUGH REGION BY EXPERTS, COUPLED WITH CONSULTATIONS IN GENEVA LATE APRIL/EARLY MAY UNDER CHAIRMANSHIP OF CRIS BEBEE, IF HE IS AGREEABLE. ASST SEC MINK CAN BE AVAILABLE FOR GENEVA PORTION. WILL COMMUNICATE OUR THINKING IN MORE DETAIL TO ALL POSTS IN NEXT SEVERAL DAYS. VANCE

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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